

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3063

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

UNCLAS BELGRADE 2917

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, YO

SUBJ: VISIT OF YUGOSLAV MAYORS

REF: STATE 118380

1. TRANSMITTED HERewith IS BIOGRAPHIC AND PROGRAM INFO ON
MAYOR OF LJUBLJANA, TONE KOVIC:

2. BORN: SEPT 17, 1931, LJUBLJANA

3. EDUCATION: GRADUATE IN ENGINEERING (METALLURGICAL), U.
OF LJUBLJANA.

4. PRESENT POSITION: PRESIDENT OF THE LJUBLJANA CITY ASSEMBLY,
SINCE SEPT 20, 1973.

5. PAST POSITIONS: DEPUTY IN CITY ASSEMBLY; PRESIDENT, ASSEMBLY
COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL CONTROL; PRESIDENT OF THE SAWP (SOCIALIST
ALLIANCE OF WORKING PEOPLE) FOR THE COMMUNE OF LJUBLJANA-SISKA.
WORKED FOR LITOSTROJ, LJUBLJANA-BASED FIRM PRODUCING ELECTRICAL
MACHINERY, FROM 1960 TO 1973. WAS DIRECTOR OF FOUNDRY DIVISION
OF FIRM.

6. MARITAL STATUS: MARRIED, NO CHILDREN.

7. HOME ADDRESS: CELOVSKA 143, LJUBLJANA; PHONE (061) 55-882.

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MESSAGES SHOULD, HOWEVER, BE SENT THROUGH CITY ASSEMBLY.

8. PREVIOUS TRAVEL: WIDELY IN EUROPE; SOMEWHAT IN ASIA. VISITED US IN 1972 TO ATTEND WORLD FOUNDRY CONGRESS IN PHILADELPHIA. (ALSO VISITED NEW YORK AND MIAMI DURING THAT TRIP.)

9. LANGUAGES; SERBO-CROATIAN AND SLOVENIAN; SOME GERMAN AND RUSSIAN; UNDERSTANDS SOME ENGLISH BUT DOES NOT SPEAK IT.

10. PUBLICATIONS: ARTICLES ON METALLURGY AND FOUNDRY WORK FOR YUGOSLAV PROFESSIONAL JOURNALS.

11. GENERAL INTERESTS: KOVIC REGARDS VISIT AS OPPORTUNITY TRANSACT BUSINESS ON BEHALF OF LJUBLJANA AND STUDY US URBAN PLANNING, ESPECIALLY HANDLING OF TRAFFIC PROBLEMS. (LJUBLJANA APPARENTLY CONSIDERING CONSTRUCTION OF A BELT-WAY). ALSO INTERESTED IN PRE-SCHOOL CHILD CARE CENTERS. AS METALLURGIST, WISHES VISIT ONE OR MORE MODERN US FOUNDRY OPERATIONS.

12. SPECIFIC PLACES TO VISIT, MORE OR LESS IN ORDER OF PRIORITY:
A) CLEVELAND, OHIO (TO EXPLORE POSSIBLE SISTER-CITY CONNECTION).
B) KANSAS CITY, KANSAS (ANOTHER SISTER-CITY) GROUP FROM KANSAS CITY EXPECTED VISIT LJUBLJANA THIS FALL).
C) GRAND RAPIDS, MICH (TO SEE PRESIDENT'S HOME TOWN; RETURN VISIT TO MAYOR PARKS; EXAMINE JOINT URBAN STUDIES PROGRAM BETWEEN LJUBLJANA AND GRAND RAPIDS).
D) SINCE KOVIC HAS NEVER SEEN WEST COAST, WISHES VISIT SAN FRANCISCO (TO RENEW ACQUAINTANCE WITH MAYOR ALIOTO WHOM HE MET AT CONFERENCE IN TEHERAN); GENERAL SIGHT-SEEING.
E) WEST FRANKFORT, ILL (TO VISIT PATERNAL UNCLE, MR. TONE KOVIC. MAYOR SAYS WOULD ARRANGE CONTACT HIS RELATIVES HIMSELF ONCE HIS SCHEDULE ESTABLISHED).
F) MAY HAVE FURTHER SUGGESTIONS IN EVENT SLOVENIAN VICE PRESIDENT DRAGAN, NOW IN US ON PARTIAL IV, RETURNS WITH CONTACTS WHICH KOVIC MAY WISH TO FOLLOW UP.
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